

## Recent Books on Malay.

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*Risalat Hoekoem Kanoen ja-itoe Oendang-Oendang Melaka* edited by Dr. Ph. S. van Ronkel (Brill, Leiden, 1919). This is an authoritative text of the Malay Laws of Malacca, of which an abstract is given in Newbold's history of Malacca (Vol. II pp. 231 *et seq*). It is particularly valuable because Malay "Codes" deserve more comparative study than they have hitherto received and especially comparison with such Indian "Codes" as are to be found, for example in the *Ain-i Akhbar* and *Tarikh-i Tahiri*.

*Maleisch Woordenboek (Maleisch-Nederlandsch and Nederlandsch-Maleisch)* by Dr. Ph. S. van Ronkel (Gouda, 1918). This is an excellent little dictionary, which the author modestly describes as the first dictionary printed in the Dutch official spelling, though it has many other good points such as scholarly accuracy and arrangement to recommend it. It will be to Dutch scholars what Wilkinson's and Winstedt's abridged dictionaries are to us.

*Supplement-Catalogus der Maleische en Minangkabausche Handschriften in de Leidsche Universiteits-Bibliotheek* by Dr. Ph. S. van Ronkel (Leiden 1921). This is a supplement (316 pp.) to Dr. Juynboll's well-known Catalogus of the Leyden Library (1899) and is worthy to stand beside it and van Ronkel's own Catalogue of Malay MSS. in the Batavian Society's Library. Many of the new MSS. here catalogued came from Ophuijsen's and Snouck Hurgronje's collection. Two MSS. of the *Ht. Bayan Budiman* are here recorded and one of the *Puspa Wiraja*, of which Dr. Winstedt (Journal 83, p. 96) knew only one MS. There are a number of valuable works on Islam and mysticism in the Snouck Hurgronje collection. The book will be of incalculable service to all serious students of Malay.

*Wir Menschen der indonesischen Erde* by Renward Brandstetter (Luzern). This comparison of the "souls" of two peoples, the Indonesian and the Indogermanic is a sequel to the author's valuable studies of Indonesian philology, familiar to English readers from Mr. C. O. Blagden's translations of several of the best known.

*Pantoen Mĕlajoe* issued by the *Balai Poestaka* (Weltevreden, 1920). This is a fine collection of Malay quatrains, the Dutch counterpart of the book published by Messrs Wilkinson and Winstedt, now out of print. The collection will be of value for comparative purposes, especially for comparison with the Peninsular collection just mentioned.

*Kitab Loghat Mĕlayu* by R. O. Winstedt D. Litt. and Ibrahim bin Dato' Muda, Linggi (Singapore, 1921). A dictionary in Malay for Malays, the first that has appeared in the Peninsula

since the old *Kamus Mahmudiah*, long since out of date. It is one of the series of Dr. Winstedt's works, prepared for the use of vernacular schools and colleges. It has been favorably reviewed by Mr. C. O. Blagden in our parent Journal.

*Kitab Tawarikh Melayu*, third edition by R. O. Winstedt D. Litt. (Singapore 1921). This is a revised edition of a Malay history for Malays, which has excited much interest in the vernacular press.

*Dictionary of Colloquial Malay (Malay-English and English-Malay)* by R. O. Winstedt (Singapore 1920). This is the first concise colloquial dictionary of Malay by an English scholar and is companion to the author's "Colloquial Malay," of which a new edition appeared in 1920. Mr. Blagden has reviewed it in our parent Journal (October, 1921).

*An Abridged Malay-English Dictionary (Romanised)* by R. J. Wilkinson C.M.G., (Singapore 1919). A second and revised edition of a book which has been in the hands of all English students of the language since 1908. There "will be found a fair sprinkling of new words, a great number of closer definitions of meaning and a few corrections."

*Misa Melayu* with introduction and notes and edited by R. O. Winstedt (Singapore 1919). Vol. 15 of the Malay Literature Series, published by the Methodist Publishing House. It is an 18th century history of Perak and it is surprising that no text of such an interesting Malay historical work has hitherto appeared. Not only does it throw light on Malay life of the period but also on Perak's relations with the Dutch. Dr. Winstedt's text is based on three MSS. and there is another at the Hague.

*Hikayat Bayan Budiman atau Chërta Khojah Maimun* edited with introduction and notes by R. O. Winstedt, D. Litt, Oxon. (Singapore 1920). This is vol. 16 of the Malay Literature Series and is the first complete text of the Malay version of the Persian *Tutinameh*, known in England as "Tales of a Parrot." Dr. Winstedt's text is based primarily on two MSS. of the tale in Raffles Library, Singapore. He also prints the oldest MS. of the Malay version, the fragment now in the Bodleian Library, which belonged formerly to Edward Pococke and dates from about 1600 A.D. This volume should interest many Oriental scholars.

*A History of the Peninsular Malays with chapters on Perak and Selangor* by R. J. Wilkinson C.M.G., (Singapore 1920). This is a revised and enlarged edition of "History, Part I," printed in 1908 in "Papers on Malay Subjects." "Research has added to our knowledge of early Malay history and the last four chapters embody hitherto unpublished results of original study." Especially interesting is the chapter on the murder of Mr. J. W. Birch and the events leading to the Perak war. Mr. C. O. Blagden

has drawn attention to some inaccuracies and criticisms. The author's failure to give references in our parent Journal (*J. R. A. S. October 1921*).

*Johol, Inas, Ulu Muar, Jempul, Gunong Pasir and Terachi: their History and Constitution* by J. E. Nathan and R. O. Winstedt (1920). This is the last but one of the second series of "Papers on Malay Subjects," which owed their inspiration to Mr. Wilkinson originally. This volume gives the latest theory as to which States composed the ancient Negri Sembilan. It also gives much information invaluable to government officers stationed in Negri Sembilan to-day. This book also Mr. Blagden has reviewed.

*Perak Malay* by C. C. Brown (Calcutta 1921, published for the Committee for Malay Studies, Kuala Lumpur). This is the latest volume in the Second Series of "Papers on Malay Subjects." It is without question the most valuable and scholarly study of any Peninsular dialect that has yet appeared. It is to be hoped that there may be found students to write similar brochures, say, on the dialects of Kedah, Kelantan, Trengganu and Negri Sembilan. One of the dialogues was written by H. H. the Sultan of Perak, and the Raja di-Hilir (Raja Chulan) assisted the author to read the proofs. The 29 dialogues in the Perak River vernacular are prefaced by a scholarly introduction. "To Lambok (p. 68) is referred to, if my memory serves me, in "Notes and Queries" of this Society: he was a not very remote Kinta chief and will be found in Dr. Winstedt's "Perak Pedigrees."